

# MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055-6596

717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org

March 14, 2021 • 4th Sunday of Lent • 10am

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Prelude

*Prelude*

Carl Maria Von Weber

Welcome & Concerns of the Church

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!

**We will praise the Lord as long as we live!**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob.

**Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord.**

God executes justice for the oppressed, provides food to the hungry, and opens the eyes of the blind.

**The Lord watches over strangers and upholds the widow.**

The Lord will reign forever, for all generations.

**Praise the Lord!**

Hymn #762, vv. 1-2

*When the Poor Ones*

EL CAMINO

*When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,  
when the thirsty water give unto us all,  
when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,*

*Refrain: then we know that God still goes that road with us (2x)*

*When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,  
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,  
when we love though hate at times seems all around us, (Refrain)*

## Call to Confession

We are a community and a covenant people, who have all fallen short of the glory of God.  
Therefore, trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins together.

## Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,  
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.  
We confess that we have strayed from you  
and turned aside from your way.  
We are misled by pride,  
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,  
and great when we are small.  
We have failed in love,  
neglected justice,  
and ignored your truth.  
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.  
Return us to paths of righteousness  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

## Response #551

*Lord, Have Mercy*

*Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God, Amen!

## We Love to Tell the Story

## Prayer for Illumination

## Scripture Lesson

Psalm 146

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!*

*I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.*

*Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.*

*When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.*

*Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,  
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;*

*who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the  
righteous.*

*The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he  
brings to ruin.*

*The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!*

## Special Music

## Scripture Lesson

Mark 12:38-44

*As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."*

*He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."*

The story of God for the people of God... **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Mary Poppins  
A Spoonful of Justice

Cathay Snyder

## Declaration of Faith – just words on screen

The Apostles' Creed

*Our church states its faith and bears witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ by using ten creeds and confessions. In these confessional statements the church declares to its members and to the world who and what it is, what it believes and what it resolves to do. These confessional statements are subject to the authority of Jesus Christ and the Word of God.*

*The following is the Apostles' Creed, which in its earliest form dates back to 180 AD. The word 'catholic' refers to the entire Christian church; 'quick' means living:*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Hymn #762, vv. 3-4

When the Poor Ones

EL CAMINO

*When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,  
when our lips can speak no words other than true,  
when we know that love for simple things is better, (Refrain)*

*Refrain: then we know that God still goes that road with us, (2x)*

*When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,  
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,  
when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, (Refrain)*

## Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

In your mercy Lord... **hear our prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Offering of Tithes & Gifts

Offertory

Largo

Johann Sebastian Bach

## Prayer of Dedication

Response #215, v. 3

*What Wondrous Love Is This  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
while millions join the theme, I will sing!*

WONDROUS LOVE

## Charge & Benediction

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**Pastors:** Mark Allio & Kathryn Johnston

**Liturgists:** Nickie Shaddock, Suzi Souder, Cathay Snyder

**Organist:** Mark McKeever

**Don't forget! You can listen to a sermon snippet** by calling 717-896-0131. The message usually changes on Saturday morning.

### **YOU CAN CALL IN TO HEAR WORSHIP AT 10AM on SUNDAY MORNINGS**

**Dial (toll free): 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099**

A voice will welcome you to Zoom and ask you to enter the meeting ID which is: 717-697-0351#

You should then be able to hear the worship service.

The line will be open on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:45am.

### **Join in Outdoor Worship Sunday afternoons at 1pm**

Sign up online or call the church office to let us know you're coming!

### **The Church office is open 2-4pm Monday thru Thursday and 9-12 on Friday!**

#### **Join us for Tuesday Evening Prayer at 7:30pm this Lent on Zoom or Facebook Live:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86551663078?pwd=MHkwFFNR2o3QIErbmFsalFMSzBoZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 5166 3078

Passcode: PRAYER

Or Dial toll free:

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

833 548 0276 US Toll-free

833 548 0282 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 865 5166 3078